

CRW 4343: Literary Publishing and Editing
Semester Day/Time Room #
(3 credits)

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Course Description

This course will provide a combination of theoretical background and practical, hands-on experience in the field of literary magazine editing and publishing. Students will work together to produce *Coastlines*, the undergraduate literary journal of Florida Atlantic University. Duties involved in the production of the journal include soliciting and evaluating submissions, editing, proofreading, marketing, publicity, research, budget proposals, web design, public relations, and more. NOTE: While this is a one-semester course, certain staff positions at *Coastlines* can be a full-year commitment. When you are deciding how you want to be involved in the magazine, please keep this in mind.

Course Goals:

- To learn about all aspects of literary magazines: history, production, editorial processes, and more.
- To develop professional skills in literary publishing, and prepare for possible employment in publishing or arts administration.
- To produce *Coastlines Literary Magazine*, including the following duties: reading, tracking, and responding professionally to submissions of literary fiction, poetry, and nonfiction.
 - Working collaboratively with your team to make decisions regarding everything from data entry procedures to the aesthetic vision for the magazine.
 - Composing solicitation letters to writers you might wish to interview for the magazine (the Sanders Writer-in-Residence, for example).
 - Learning to write a successful budget proposal.
- To contribute to the development of the course mission and goals, as they relate to the production of the magazine.

Required Texts:

1. *The Little Magazine in Contemporary America*, edited by Ian Morris and Joanne Diaz (ISBN 978-0-226-24055-8)
2. A selection of readings available on Blackboard as PDF documents *
3. Literary magazines from the M.F.A. Program library, available in CU 311

* Please note that you will need to print these reading assignments and bring them to class with you on the day they are discussed. You should consider the cost of printing these documents the way you would a third required course book.

Course Requirements:**Participation (attendance and weekly discussion questions)**

This is a discussion-based class in which the participation of every single student will have an impact on the final product—*Coastlines Literary Magazine*. Therefore, students are expected to come to all class meetings, take an active role on their Teams, and post weekly discussion questions on the week's assigned reading. More information about what comprises an appropriate discussion question will be found on the Blackboard site.

Presentation and written report on a current literary journal

The website newpages.com is a treasure trove of information regarding just about every literary journal publishing in English today. Every student should choose a magazine from their extensive list and prepare a detailed report and class presentation. There will be a separate assignment sheet for this posted to Blackboard that provides more information about the requirements.

Three blog posts detailing the weekly progress of your team

Because students will be doing a lot of work in smaller groups (Teams), in which they'll learn a particular aspect of literary editing and publishing in more depth, someone from every group will be responsible each week for summarizing the progress of the group and posting this information to the class blog.

End-of-semester report on your specific staff position

At the end of the semester you will hand in a detailed, 2-3 page report about your positions at *Coastlines*. There will be a separate assignment sheet for this posted to Blackboard that provides more information about the requirements.

Grading Breakdown:

Participation	10%
Presentation/Written Report	35%
Blog Posts	25%
Final Report	30%

Florida Atlantic University follows a plus/minus (+/–) grading system. Numeric values for this course are as follows:

93-100 **A** 92-90 **A-** 89-87 **B+** 86-83 **B** 82-80 **B-**

79-77 **C+** 76-73 **C** 72-70 **C-** 69-60 **D** 59-0 **F**

Policies

Please feel free to come to office hours to discuss course readings or assignments. If you're struggling with any aspect of the course, please take the time to talk to your professor.

This is a discussion- and group work-based class, so every absence will affect your grade unless you take steps to discuss with the professor, as well as your Team, what you missed, turn in any work

due, and compensate for the missed time in whatever way the professor and Team decides is necessary. Please Note that a total of SIX (6) ABSENCES (in a class that meets two days a week) and THREE (3) ABSENCES (in a one day per week class) will automatically result in failure of the course.* Your participation grade will be negatively affected by late arrivals to class, which are disruptive and are likely to cause you to miss important material and announcements.

* Except when University attendance policy supersedes this policy, as stated in relevant Provost's memoranda: <http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/religious2011.pdf> and <http://www.fau.edu/provost/files/studentabsences.pdf>

Assignments are due on or before the date specified. Any assignments that are late will be deducted one letter grade per calendar day of lateness. Failure to turn in an assignment within four calendar days will result in a zero for that assignment. *Nevertheless, you must complete all assignments in order to pass the course.*

All work must be written specifically for this class.

You are expected to do your own work. When you put your name on your paper, you certify to me that you are turning in your own work. Any plagiarism will result in failure on the assignment and may result in failure of the entire course. (University regulations pertaining to plagiarism may be found in the catalog under the heading "Academic Irregularities" and the Student Behavior Regulations are also listed below.)

All communication and correspondence—in class, via e-mail, and in other writing—should be professional and courteous.

Student Behavior Regulations:

I. The president or approved designee shall have the authority to order any student to cease and desist any activity which in the president's or designee's judgment disrupts the orderly operation of the institution.

II. Plagiarism: Plagiarism in any form, and from any source (whether oral, printed, electronic, etc.) is unacceptable, and is a serious breach of the academic honor code. *If you plagiarize or cheat in any way, you will receive an F for this course.* Plagiarism includes copying information off of Internet websites. If you have any questions as to what constitutes plagiarism, discuss your concerns with me.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see <http://www.fau.edu/ctl/AcademicIntegrity.php>

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) located in Boca Raton SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - LA 240 (954-236-1657), in Jupiter - SR 110 (561-799-8585) and follow all SAS procedures.

COURSE CALENDAR

All readings are from *The Little Magazine in Contemporary America* (TCA), unless otherwise stated. Any added reading assignments will be posted as PDF files or links will be provided on Blackboard.

- Class 1:** Introduction to course. History of *Coastlines* and staff positions and responsibilities. Creation of a new literary magazine: Team reports assigned.
For Class 2: Read introduction by Jeffery Lependorf, “The Sacred is Not Misplaced” by Dave Eggers, “This Being 2015” by Ander Monson. Create applications for desired position and written order of preference on entire staff list (handout).
- Class 2:** Assignment of Teams and discussion of/distribution of responsibilities within Teams. Blog post schedule created. Work priorities articulated in Teams and written up in first blog posts.
For Class 3: Read “Publishing is Personal” by Rebecca Wolff and “*Alaska Quarterly Review* and the Literary Tonic.” Work on Literary Magazine Reports and read Team blog posts.
- Class 3:** Discussion of readings. Team meetings: discussion of responsibilities and task-oriented work on *Coastlines*. Communication Flow Chart (BB) discussed; e-mail communication list distributed.
For Class 4: Read “*Callaloo: A Journal of Necessity*” and “The Life of *Ontario Review* (1974 – 2008)” by Greg Johnson. Work on Team projects, and Literary Journal Reports, and Blog posts.
- Class 4:** Discussion of reading. First Reports/Presentations on Literary Magazines. Team meetings (content review, website updates, social media creation/updates, and planning of speaker series and *Coastlines* Fall Reading, etc.
For Class 5: Read “Decent Company Between the Covers” by Cara Blue Adams and “War of the Words: Fighting for a Journal and a Genre” by Lee Gutkind. Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks.
- Class 5:** Discussion of reading. Reports/Presentations. Work in Teams under the observation of professor.
For class 6: Read “Making a Living and a Life in Literary Magazines” by Carolyn Kuebler and “The Future of the Gatekeepers” by Jane Friedman. (Review her blog at janefriedman.com). Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks.
- Class 6:** Discussion of reading. Reports/Presentations. Work in Teams under the observation of professor.
For class 7: Read “Summoning the Bard: The Twenty-First-Century Literary Magazine on the Web” and “The World Doesn’t Stop for Derek Walcott, or: An Exchange Between Coeditors.” Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks.

- Class 7:** Discussion of *Coastlines* Web and social media presence; Reports/Presentations; Group discussion of Team activities, including updates on upcoming *Coastlines* event, related campus events, and upcoming speakers.
For Class 8: Prepare for Speaker Presentation 1: Upload research and questions on BB. Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks.
- Class 8:** **Speaker 1 Presentation.** Post-discussion of presentation. Updates from all Teams, and progress toward upcoming events/Team plans.
For class 9: Read submissions to be discussed next class by all Teams (BB).
- Class 9:** Reports/Presentations. Discussion of content issues of magazine (see BB for sample Submission(s) to be discussed). Work in Teams under the observation of professor.
For Class 10: Read “The History of *BOMB*” by Betsy Sussler and “On *n+1*” by Keith Gessen. Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks (especially re: NDOW).
- Class 10:** Discussion of reading and National Day on Writing (NDOW) events. Reports/Presentations. Work in Teams under the observation of professor.
- Class 11:** Updates from Teams, including progress toward upcoming Coastlines Fall Reading. Team planning under the observation of professor.
“Soft” Deadline for Coastlines submissions.
- Class 12:** Discussion of readings. Final Reports/Presentations. Work in Teams under the observation of professor. (Content Teams: discuss submissions.)
For Class 13: Prepare for Speaker Presentation 2: Upload research and questions on BB. Work on Team projects and other ongoing tasks.
- Nov. 11** **Veterans Day – No class**
- Class 13:** **Speaker 2 Presentation.** Post-discussion of presentation. Updates from all Teams, and progress toward upcoming events/Team plans. Content discussion re: issues re: submissions to *Coastlines*. In-class SPOTS.
- Class 14:** Wrap-up. Final Reports/Presentations (if any) and reflection on progress and future plans for the publication of *Coastlines*.
Applications for Spring 2017 positions due.
Final deadline for Coastlines submissions.
- Dec 2:** Exam Day: Final Reports Due.